Abstract Submitted for the MAR98 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Sorting Category: 9c

Superfluid transition of helium-4 under heat current and reduced gravity in a low-g simulator YUANMING LIU, MELORA LARSON, ULF ISRAELSSON, JetPropulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology- We report our latest measurements on the helium-4 superfluid transition under heat current in a low-gravity simulator. Due to the hydrostatic pressure variation caused by gravity, the superfluid transition temperature (T_{λ}) changes with position in a liquid helium sample cdl. In our low-gravity simulator, gravity and therefore T_{λ} variation can be substantially reduced by the magnetore-sistrictive force. Our measurements showed that the gravity can be entirely canceled with a field-field gradient of 20.7 T^{2} /cm (or a field of 15.5 Tesla), consistent with theoretic prediction. The measurements also revealed a strong dependence of the boundary resistance between the thermometers and liquid helium on the magnetic field. The resistance increased with an increasing magnetic field.

X Prefer Oral Session
Prefer Poster Session

Yuanming Liu yliu@squid.jpl.nasa.gov Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Date submitted: December 1, 1997

Electronic form version 1.1